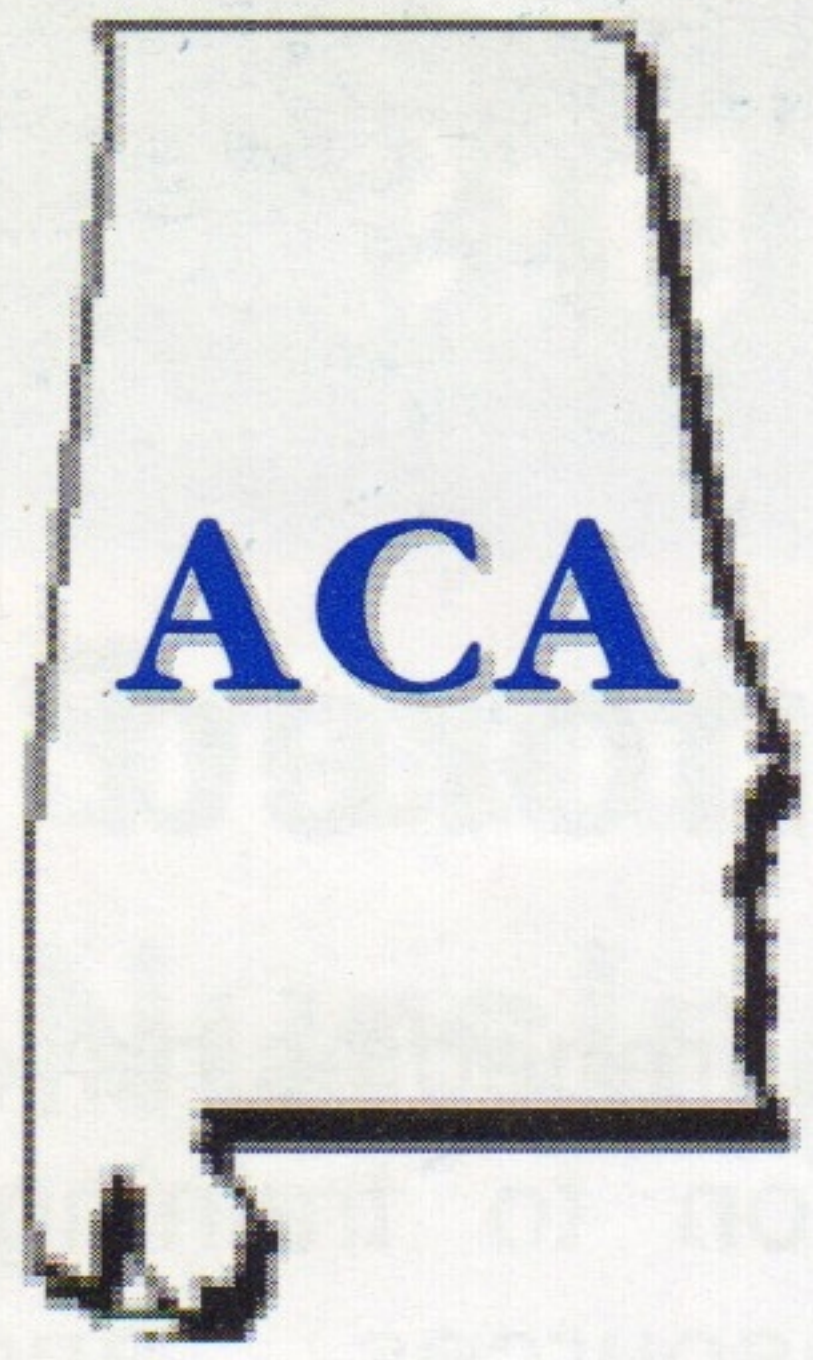




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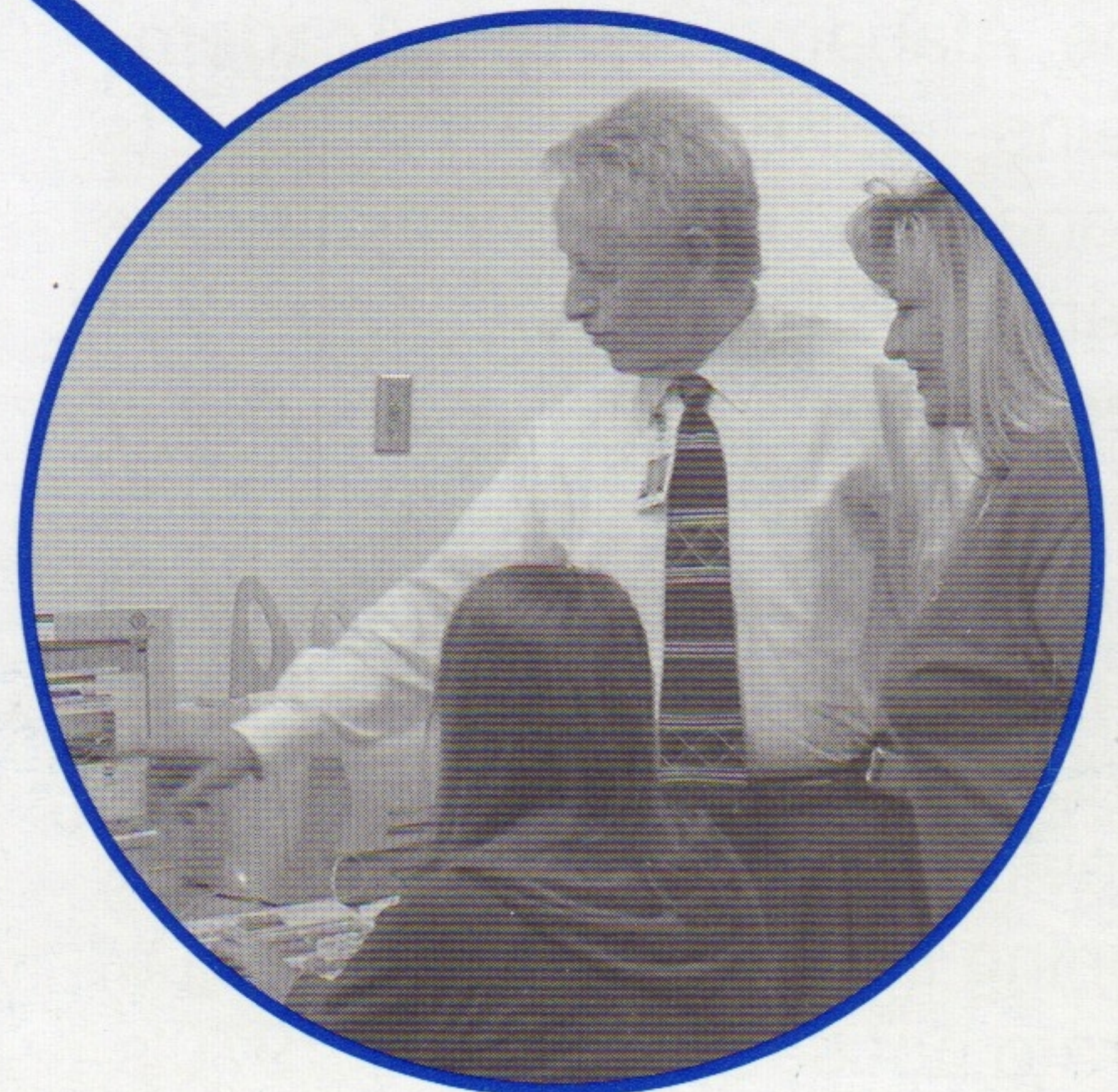
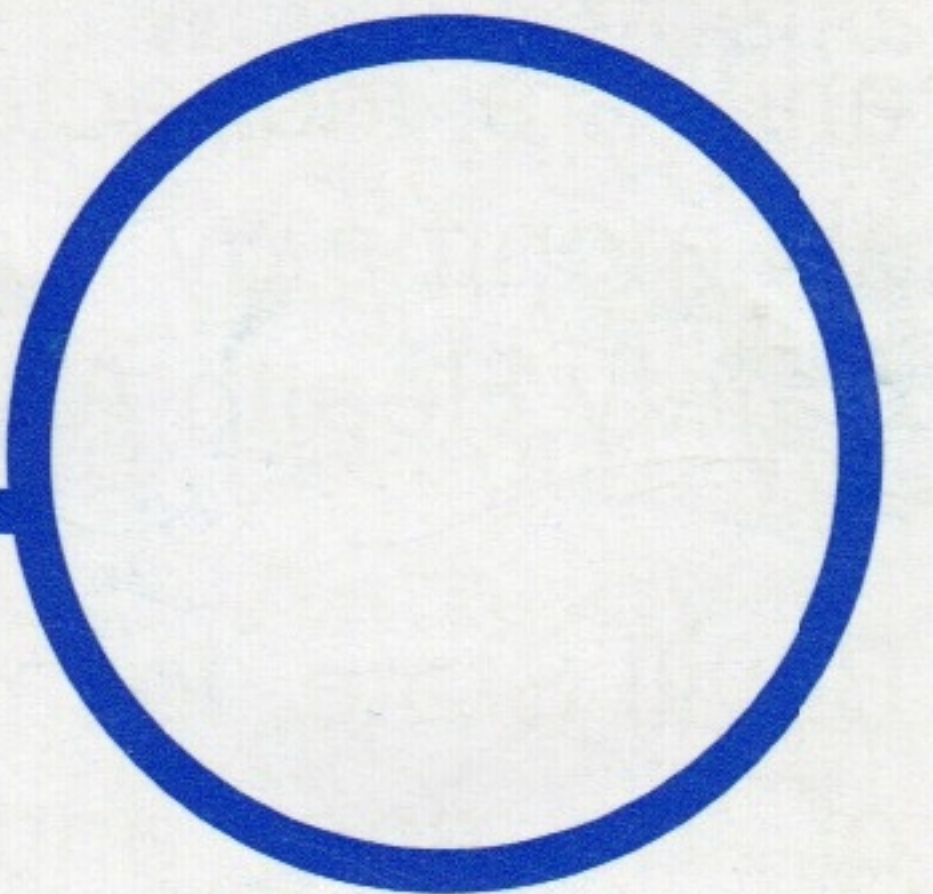
Journal

Volume 33

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Spring 2006

The Alabama College System: Focusing on The Future



Focusing on Exemplary Programs

Alabama Mining Academy Members Honored

Members of the Alabama State Board of Education recently honored members of Alabama's mine rescue teams, which are based at Bevill State Community College. The recognition took place at the postsecondary board meeting Feb. 9 in Montgomery. The Board passed a resolution honoring the teams' courage and dedication to mining efforts in the state.

The teams are located and trained on the Sumiton campus of Bevill State and are ready to respond to any mining disaster within two hours. They train year-round for any potential scenario and are inspected every six months by the Mine Safety Health Administration.

Bevill State, located in the heart of the coal and metal mining region, is home of the Alabama Mining Academy and the state's mine rescue teams.

The Alabama Mining Academy trains miners and supports Alabama's mining industry as mandated by the Alabama State Legislature. More than 8,300 miners received training through Bevill State's mining program last year. That is up from the average of 6,000 miners in previous years, as the state's mining industries are growing at a rate not seen since the 1970's.



Members of the Mine Rescue Teams and State Board of Education Member Sandra Ray and Bevill President Dr. Harold Wade.

"The recent focus on mine safety in the news reminds us that we can't forget the highly trained people who are ready to risk their lives at a moment's notice..."

Recent mining tragedies have called attention to training, technical resources, and safety issues in the mining industry. All federally mandated training programs for first aid, rescue, underground and surface mining, and coal and metal mining are provided to new and experienced miners across the state through Bevill State programs.

"The recent focus on mine safety in the news reminds us that we can't forget the highly trained people who are ready to risk their lives at a moment's notice in the event of a mining accident in Alabama. We shouldn't wait until a crisis to acknowledge how important they are," said **Dr. Harold Wade**, president of Bevill State.



The rescue team members, who attended the meeting in full gear, met afterward with Gov. Bob Riley at the capitol to discuss the team's work and program needs.

Focusing on Exemplary Programs

Snead State to Establish Nursing Career Access Alliance

The already successful nursing program at Snead State Community College received a boost through the Community Based Job Training Initiative.

With the assistance of Congressman **Robert Aderholt**, Snead received a \$1,560,550 grant to establish a Nursing Career Access Alliance program. The program will serve the College's service area in Marshall, DeKalb, and Blount Counties by expanding training capabilities.

"We will be able to extend our services to more students in order to address the need in the workforce for certified healthcare professionals," said Interim President **Lavell Thrasher**.

The Nursing Career Access Alliance targets the critical shortage in the local economy with training activities to address current and future needs for Certified Nursing Assistants, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Registered Nurses. In addition, the college will utilize the program to build on partnerships to address those critical needs.

Snead State has formed partnerships with Boaz and Arab High Schools due to their proximity to Marshall Medical Centers North and South and to Snead's sites in Boaz and Arab. The high schools will play a vital role in the development of a dual enrollment nursing program and in an outreach program that will include career advising, summer camps, workshops, and internships - all designed to interest students in the healthcare field.

"We want to build our nursing program so that we can reach both entry-level students and those already in the workforce who need additional training for career advancement," said Snead State Vice President **Dr. Allen B. Champion**.



Trenholm Tech is Cooking with New Culinary Lab

On March 28, more than 70 invited guests attended the grand opening of Harper's, Trenholm Tech's new culinary arts cooking lab in the Montgomery Mall.

The lab is named after the college's namesake, Harper Councill Trenholm, a former president of Alabama State University. The culinary arts instructional program is also located in the Montgomery Mall under a two-year agreement, while the college secures funds to build a new facility.

The college has transformed the former Ruby Tuesday restaurant into a cooking lab where students "will get hands-on experience they need to produce culinary delights in a real working environment," according to **Dr. Anthony L. Molina**, president of Trenholm Tech. Dr. Molina added, "The community will benefit from the cooking lab as well, because they will have the opportunity to experience dining at its best prepared and served by our students under the supervision of instructors who are Master Chefs."

Relocating to the new site appears to be working, 14 new students enrolled in culinary arts this semester while shopping in the mall. Harper's will serve lunch to the public every Tuesday and Wednesday with a rotating menu of Southern, French, German and Tex-Mex cuisine.

Alabama College System: Focusing on the Future

Focusing on Partnerships

JDCC and ATN Partner to Provide Training

Jefferson Davis Community College's Training for Business and Industry Program and The Alabama Technology Network have joined together to offer activities to meet the needs of the service area.

A "Lunch and Learn" workshop was presented to inform business leaders about training and services provided. The two groups have jointly coordinated continuing education classes for health care professionals and a workshop for parents, ministers, teachers, and social workers about potentially dangerous websites.

JDCC employees also participated in a one-day LEAN workshop. ATN staff provided training to faculty and staff through an interactive live simulation where they took on the roles of managers and workers in an office.

At the end of the workshop, participants redesigned a leaner office that improved customer and employee satisfaction. JDCC employees will apply the principles of LEAN to improve efficiency in their jobs.

Multi-Year Plan to Train Workforce Announced

At a press conference Jan. 30, on the campus of Central Alabama Community College, **Dr. Roy Johnson**, chancellor of the two-year college system, announced a plan to join forces with Russell Corporation to solidify the status of existing jobs with the company in east central Alabama. Several weeks prior, Russell had announced the layoff of over 1000 employees, with over 500 of those being in the Alexander City area.

"On behalf of the Alabama College System, the state board of education, Gov. Bob Riley and State Representative Betty Carol Graham, we're going to embark with Russell on a multi-year program," said Johnson.

Dr. Johnson mentioned that \$310,000 would be available to Russell as the beginning of a multi-year plan to help secure some 2,000 existing jobs.

"We want to assure you that we'll do everything we can to help in their transition to a new job. We want to help them with connecting to new jobs or training in the community college system that will lead to new jobs," stated **Dr. Tim Alford**, director of Workforce Development.

"We appreciate everything you can do to help them get back to work. These are good workers and it had nothing to do with

them," explained **Jack Ward**, president and Chairman of Russell Corporation.

Central Alabama Community College, in conjunction with the Alabama Technology Network, will be the primary two-year college involved with this project. **Susan Salatto**, president of CACC and **Dr. Betty Carol Graham**, vice-president of CACC pledged their support of this project for many years.

"In this time of despair for so many, we at CACC feel honored and touched to be able to provide a brighter future and new opportunity for displaced workers," said Salatto.

"This is so significant to me," said Dr. Graham. "We have a problem, but we've got business, the very top, taking time to meet with the very top education entity to work together. I sincerely want to thank you both. I know Mr. Ward is doing all he can to keep Russell competitive, and we're doing all we can to get jobs."



Attending the press conference were from left to right: Dr. Roy Johnson, Dr. Betty Carol Graham, Dr. Tim Alford, Susan Salatto, and Jack Ward.

Focusing on Partnerships

WCC-Dothan Campaign Nears Goal

Wallace Community College-Dothan has topped the \$3.5 million mark in the institution's first major gifts campaign, and College officials are hopeful they will reach the \$4 million goal by June.

Dr. Kay Roney, dean of institutional advancement, said students of the college will soon reap the benefits of the fundraising effort. "This funding will allow for more endowed scholarships and the expansion of workforce development services and health care training programs," she said.

Since the campaign was publicly launched in October 2005, members of the Wallace faculty and staff, as well as local business and industry leaders, have provided generous support through personal donations and pledges from their businesses.

Medical Center Enterprise CEO **Jeff Brannon** is also an avid

supporter of Wallace Community College and has pledged personal and institutional support. Brannon, who served as the 2003-04 president of the Wallace Foundation Board, graduated from the College's Associate degree nursing program after receiving a business administration degree from Troy University.

Brannon and his wife Nina made a generous personal gift, and Medical Center Enterprise has pledged \$50,000 to the Campaign. "Wallace Community College is the foundation for my career in health care, and it is a privilege to give back to this institution that has given me so much," he said.

As a hospital administrator, Brannon said he relies on Wallace graduates to meet his workforce needs. In fact, more than 80 percent of the region's nurses and allied health technicians are Wallace graduates. Brannon said, "Wallace not only

provides our workers, but with health care jobs so plentiful, people also stay here to work, which is an economic driver for the region."

Drake State, 3M Corporation Partner to Train Technicians

Drake State Technical College administrators recently accepted a \$6,000 check from 3M Corporation to promote the college's new industrial maintenance program. The money will be used to start a 3M scholarship for students who are interested in studying the field of industrial maintenance.

"3M recognizes the need for highly-skilled multi-craft technicians in our region and is taking a proactive step to prepare students for this workforce," stated Drake President, **Dr. Helen McAlpine**.

The demand for industrial maintenance technicians is becoming a challenge for 3M Corporation, located in Decatur. In an effort to expose Drake students to a real-life industrial environment, 3M started a pilot work/study program with four Drake students in the 2005 spring semester.

Students must have the following to qualify for the work/study program: a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale; completion of one semester at Drake; and full-time student status. During the work/study assignment students will be evaluated on work performance, knowledge, attendance, eagerness to learn, and their attitude towards the job.



Medical Center Enterprise CEO Jeff Brannon (center) is one of several business and community leaders to have pledged to the "Campaign for Excellence." Wallace is a Brannon family tradition. His daughter Tina Dorriety (left) is a graduate, and daughter Mindy (right) is currently enrolled in the nursing program.

Focusing on Student Success

GSCC Opens Enrollment Services Office

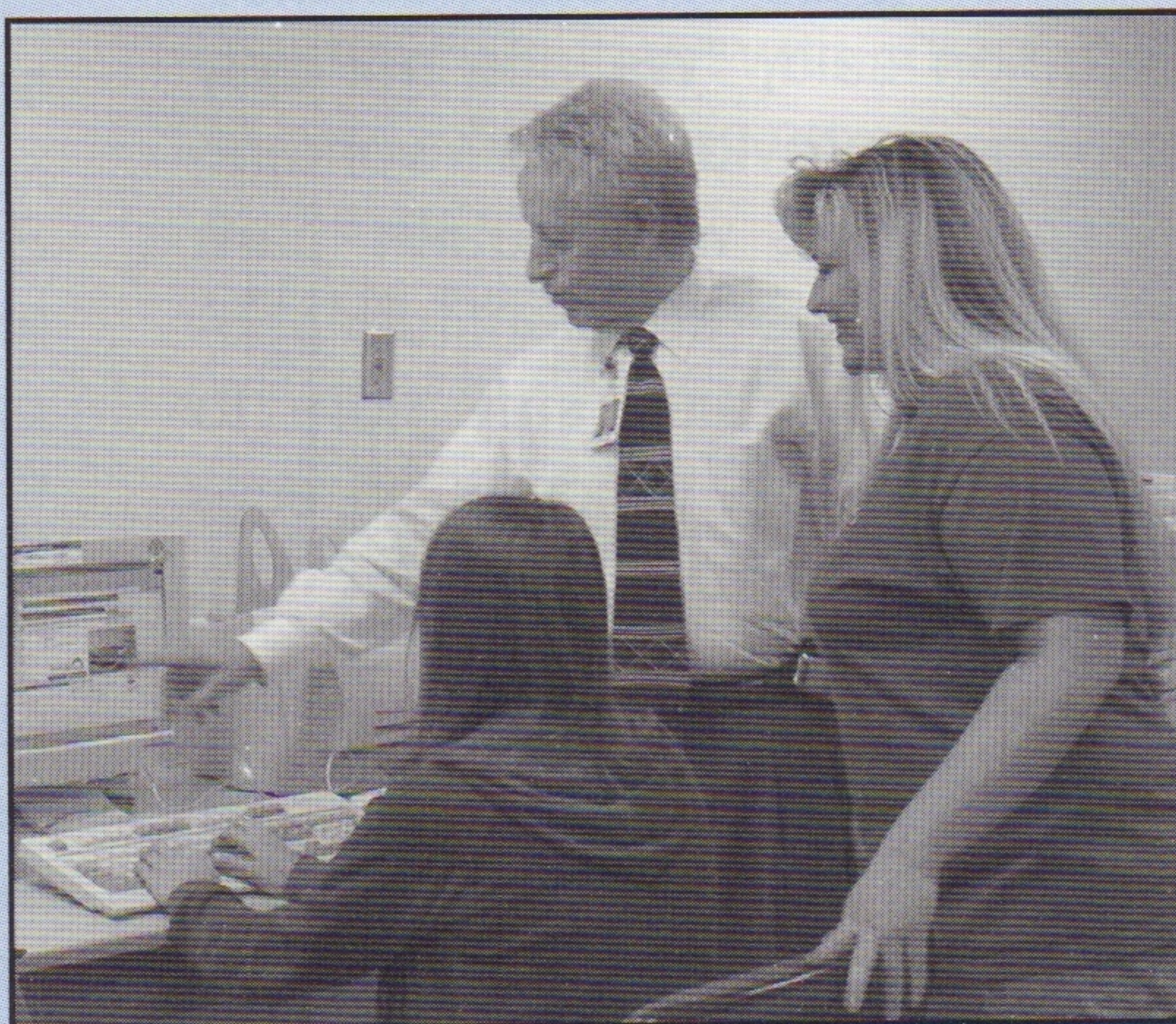
Gadsden State Community College has taken a major step toward being more "student friendly" with the opening of the Advising Center, a component of its new Enrollment Services Center on the Wallace Drive campus. Officially opened in December, usage of the Center increased dramatically during registration for the spring semester.

Dr. Teresa Rhea, associate Dean and Registrar, said that the services offered by the Center will be expanded in the future. While the primary role of the Enrollment Center is to assist students during the registration process, there are at least three other projects that the Center will initiate. First, the students who go through the center will have their success tracked and monitored. Secondly, students who are on academic probation will be contacted by the Center staff and offered services provided by the Center and other departments of the college. Lastly, the Center staff will begin a retention program to help students remain in college until the student accomplishes his/her educational goals.

The Advising Center, located in Allen Hall, is staffed by **Carl Byers**, **Elona Morgan** and **Beth Holt** along with assistance from other college employees.

Establishment of the Center is the first step in a project to consolidate all enrollment services in one location for the Wallace Drive and East Broad Campuses. Rhea stated, "We want everything in one place and, if a student has to go to another section, we'll take them---to advising, financial aid, testing, it doesn't matter. We want the students to know they are important to us."

Dr. Jim Jolly, dean of Instruction at GSCC, said the major components of the Enrollment Services Center were developed from processes already in use at the Ayers, McClellan, Valley Street and Cherokee campuses. "We are attempting to provide the same personal and warm service to students at the Wallace Drive and East Broad campuses that are already offered at the other locations. And, we at the college want to give each student an additional 'resource person' through the Enrollment Services Center."



Dr. Jim Jolly, dean of Instructional Services, offers help to GSCC students in the new Advising Center.

Athens State Graduates First Class Through Partnership

Athens State University (ASU) and Northeast Alabama Community College (NACC) reached a milestone recently when the first students used the partnership between the two schools to graduate with their baccalaureate degrees. The students finished their first two years of study at NACC then took Athens classes on the Northeast campus. Under the partnership, Athens maintains a teleconference center and classroom on the NACC campus whereby students may complete their programs of study in business and education without having to drive to the Athens campus.

ASU maintains a state-of-the-art teleconference center at Northeast and courses are broadcast to the NACC campus. ASU instructors also teach classroom courses on campus at convenient times to students.

Dr. Virginia Harris serves as the coordinator for the ASU/NACC partnership assisted by **Todd Greeson**. Currently, degree programs are offered in education and business with more majors planned in the near future.

The first students to graduate through the program are **Andrew Abercrombie**, **Rebecca Hullett**, **J. Mark Knight**, **Julie Rich**, and **Kristy Schrimsher**.

Focusing on Student Success

Bishop State First Paramedic Students Pass National Exam

The first paramedic class at Bishop State Community College has passed the National Registry certification exam with 100 percent on skills and written exams. The students are now licensed to practice as paramedics. All students in the class are completing their general course work to become the first Associate in Applied Science degree paramedic students in the region. The students enrolled in the class are **Barrett Bischoff**, **Amanda Crawford**, **James Patton** and **Matt Waltman**.

Jefferson State Honor Society Tops Again

The two Phi Theta Kappa chapters at Jefferson State, Beta Lambda Delta and Pi Pi, dominated the recent Alabama Regional Convention for the fourth consecutive year.

Pi Pi was named Alabama's Most Distinguished Chapter for the third consecutive year and Beta Lambda Delta was named first runner up for the third year. In addition, two out of the five Alabama Regional officers for 2006-2007 are Jeff State students. **Michael Gibbs** was elected Regional President and **Katie Tully** was elected Vice President of Communications.

Southern Union Dance Department Inaugurates Renaissance Theater

The Dance Department at Southern Union State Community College presented its Dance Concert March 9-10 in the Renaissance Theater on the Wadley Campus.

This year's concert, entitled "Come, Go With Me," was the inaugural event for

the recently-constructed Renaissance Theater on Southern Union's Wadley Campus. The 180-seat venue is a welcomed addition to the college and will allow the fine arts programs to offer performances in a more intimate setting.



Directed by **Sonja Fincher**, director of Dance at SUSCC, this year's show was choreographed to highlight various genres of dance. Selections ranged from lyrical and jazz styles to musical theater and modern dance.

"I hope that the show gives the audience a sense of the different styles of dance that students study here at Southern Union," commented Fincher.

While showcasing the Southern Union Dancers and other students enrolled in jazz classes at SU, the dance concert also featured guest performances from students from the Roanoke Academy of Ballet, Miss Southern Union 2006 **Joanna Stewart**, and **Taylor Swann**, winner of the dance competition at SU's Language and Fine Arts Tournament. Vocal performances by **Chelsea Spratlin** along with four members of the SU Sound, **Ollie Horn**, **LaRae Jackson**, **Molly Cotney** and **Brandy Johnson**, rounded out the evening's entertainment.

Southern Union's Dance Department enrolls college students and accelerated high school students who have intermediate/advanced levels of dance training. Scholarships are offered to deserving students.

Focusing on the Future

ACA President's Message



*Dr. Linda Hooton, President
Alabama College Association*

Do you know the feeling when you are anticipating something and then it suddenly comes into focus? You immediately receive a sense of satisfaction that your wait is over. That feeling epitomizes the opportunities found in the Alabama College System. We are focusing on the future in our efforts. We are focusing on our programs and offerings. We are focusing on our students and their goals. We are focusing on workforce needs, in order to advance employees and employers.

The Alabama College Association is a vital and important part of the Alabama College System's past, present and future. The ACA Executive Committee hopes to build on the success of the past, listen to the concerns and issues of the present, while focusing on the future. We are focusing on the professional development needs of professionals in the system. This focus will guide our planning as we organize the 2006 ACA Conference.

I hope you will be a part of our focus this year. Your involvement includes submitting workshop proposals, voting in ACA elections, attending the 2006 ACA Conference in Birmingham, and becoming involved in ACA activities. Together we can make our focus clear.

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First Vice President/President Elect

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Second Vice-President

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Focusing on the Future

Lawson State Dedicates Roy W. Johnson Jr. Baseball Field

Lawson State Community College recently held the Dedication and Ribbon Cutting of its newly constructed baseball facility. It now bears the name - **Roy W. Johnson Jr. Baseball Field**, in honor of the Chancellor of Postsecondary Education.

"This honor embodies the spirit of the man - empowering, inviting, expansive and player friendly," said Lawson State President **Dr. Perry W. Ward**. "In addition, it highlights his commitment to the spirit of athletics and his belief in empowering well-rounded students through competitive sports."

"I did not expect this honor, but I could never be more humble," said Johnson. "An investment in

a facility as such, provides kids with the opportunity to be off the corners and out of gangs and jails and in the ball fields with good coaches."

Dr. Ethel Hall, vice-president Emerita of the Alabama State Board of Education and representative for the district extended commendations to all involved, in particular Chancellor Johnson, Dr. Ward, and those who paved the way in black baseball. "I am jubilant and happy that we have seen this day come. The Alabama College System believes in educating the whole person and athletics should be a part of that," she said. "Sports should be part of the curriculum for entertaining, developing discipline and leadership - we have that in this neighborhood."

Among those gathered to celebrate were members of the Johnson family; Jerry Bell, Chancellor Johnson's former baseball coach; and several former players of the Negro Baseball League.

The \$1.5 million dollar state-of-the-art Roy W. Johnson Jr. Baseball Field includes 401 flip seats in the grand stand, a double-sided batting cage, two - 50 feet above-ground dug outs, bull pens, and an outfield fence line approximately 400- feet straight - away center field. It also houses a press box, concession stand, and restrooms.

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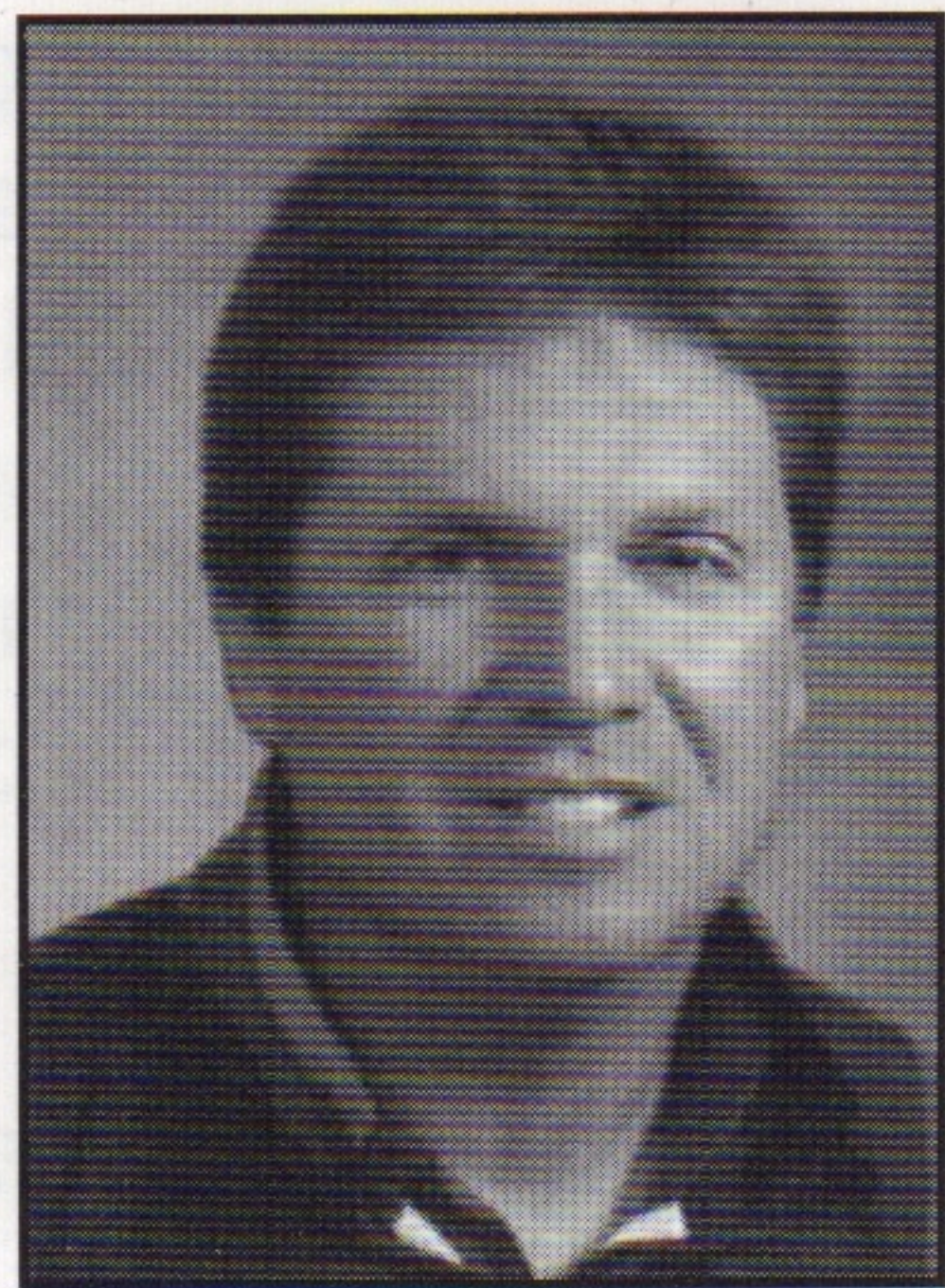
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Focusing on Accomplishments

Putnam to be Inducted in Hall of Fame



Wallace State Community College in Hanceville's baseball Coach **Randy Putman** recently received word that he will be

inducted in the NJCAA Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame.

This year marks Putman's 17th season as the head baseball coach at Wallace State, where he has posted an overall record of 614-225. His teams have won six Conference Championships; five Southeastern Regional Championships; and made five trips to the Division I JUCO World Series.

He was selected ACCC Baseball Coach of the Year in 1992, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2005 by Louisville Slugger, Diamond Baseball and the Alabama Baseball Coaches Association. Last year he was presented Alabama House of Representatives Resolution HR 543 commending his outstanding professional accomplishments. In 1991, Putman was elected into the Alabama Junior College Hall of Fame.

The induction ceremony will take place at the opening ceremonies for the 2006 JUCO World Series in Grand Junction, CO. at the end of May. The Wallace State Lions were at the ceremony last year as participants in the World Series. If the team reaches its goal this year, they'll be back again for Putman's induction.

"It is a tremendous honor to be in the Hall of Fame-the greatest honor I've ever received on an individual basis," said Putman. "A lot of great players, coaches, and assistant coaches over the years have helped me get here."

"The excellent reputation Coach Putman has established for our program has made it known not only across the nation, but around the world," said Wallace State President **Dr. Vicki Hawsey**. "We are very proud of him and glad to see him receive this prestigious honor, which he so richly deserves."

Putnam holds a Bachelor's degree in Physical Education from the University of Alabama and a Master's degree from UAB.

Calhoun President Marks Anniversary

Calhoun Community College President **Dr. Marilyn Beck** marked her third anniversary at the college in January.

Since her arrival at the college, Dr. Beck has led Calhoun in unprecedented growth. Student enrollment topped the 9000 mark; the last two phases of the college's Aerospace and Advanced Technology Park, located on its Decatur campus, were completed; the largest nursing class in the college's history was admitted during the fall of 2005; and new degree programs were added. During the past year, Calhoun has been involved in a record \$44 million in new construction and renovation projects.

Commenting on her first three years at the college, Beck said, "Much has been accomplished at Calhoun in the last three years, but none of our accomplishments could have been realized without the hard work, dedication and commitment of what I feel is the best faculty and staff body anywhere in the country. I am excited about what the future holds for us."

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Focusing on Accomplishments

Northwest-Shoals Instructor has Research Published

Northwest-Shoals Community College Anatomy & Physiology Instructor, **Dr. Joseph C. Cooney**, recently co-authored an entry in the nationally recognized Society of Vector Ecology's journal, *Journal of Vector Ecology*.

Cooney, along with fellow researchers Willy Burgdorfer, Martin K. Painter, and Cynthia L. Russell focused their study on "Tick Infestations of the eastern cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*) and small rodentia in northwest Alabama and implications for disease transmissions."

According to the study performed across four counties in northwest Alabama, Cooney and his cohorts' primary objective was to determine the link between eastern cottontail rabbits and eastern U.S. Rocky Mountain spotted fever, a febrile and sometimes fatal disease transmitted by ticks. The secondary objective of the study, "...was to compare infestations of this tick on rabbits with infestations on commonly encountered rodent species as a means of determining the relative importance of each in the disease transmission cycle" and their potential for transmission intervention strategies.

Cooney holds a Doctorate in Medical Entomology from Auburn University, and is recognized internationally as an expert in the field of the employment of environmental management measures for vector control. He has authored numerous research papers for various scientific journals, and has also written several chapters for an International Reference Text, created with a grant from the World Health Organization, to be used in developing countries. He has served for a number of years as a member of an international panel of experts on the control of vector borne diseases, primarily mosquito transmitted, and has provided consultative services to the World Health Organization in overseas assignments. His past experience includes employment with the U.S. Public Health Service's Centers for Disease Control, and Manager of the Vector and Aquatic Plant Management Program of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

Eleven Jefferson State Instructors Honored

Eleven Jefferson State instructors were recently honored for educational excellence in the 2005 edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.

Instructors **Pam West, Doris Johnson, Gail McKenzie, Eula Thompson, Shelley Coley, Jannis Farmer, Dr. Liesl Ward, Alan Davis, Christie Woods, Dr. Clark Schatz, and Dr. Pat Armstrong** were all selected by their community as exceptionally influential educators. Their names were included in the 2005 national publication.

"I was pleased to learn Jefferson State had eleven faculty members named for this honor," said Jefferson State President **Dr. Judy Merritt**. "We feel strongly about our commitment to quality education and this honor recognizes that commitment."

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Focusing on Growth

LBWCC Sees Expansions and Renovations

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College recently strengthened its commitment to its mission with expansions on two campuses and renovations enabling LBWCC to provide accessible, quality educational opportunities, to promote economic growth, and to enhance the quality of life for the communities it serves.

In December 2005, LBWCC broke ground for a new Child Development Center on the Andalusia Campus. The Child Development Center will house the associate degree and certificate child development programs and provide childcare services for students, faculty, staff, and the community.

PH & J architect, **Ren Jones**, stated "the new facility will provide 4,500 square feet of secure, kid-friendly space for a pre-school day care, walk-in child care, and classroom and office space for the Child Development Program."

Expanded opportunities are now available in Luverne as well. In February, Chancellor **Dr. Roy Johnson** cut the ribbon on the new LBW Community College



Dignitaries attend the Luverne Center ribbon cutting

Luverne Center. The new center is located at the former National Guard Armory.

Dr. Ed Meadows, LBWCC President, stated that the Luverne Center will house the Adult Education and Focused Industry Training programs as well as university transfer courses.

"Because of the facilities made available through the move to this center, the college will also offer business and industry training and continuing education courses," Dr. Meadows stated.

LBWCC also recently held a ground breaking ceremony for the Greenville Campus, signifying the beginning of the construction of the new state-of-the-art Technology Center. The 3.5 million dollar Technology Center will provide 40,000 square feet

of space to house a wide variety of programs.

In addition to the new construction projects, LBWCC has completed several major renovations on the MacArthur and Andalusia Campuses.

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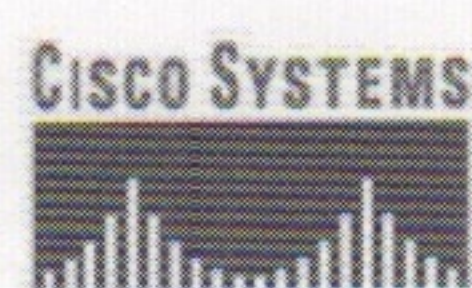
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Alabama Southern Finalist for National Award

Alabama Southern Community College's Industry Alliance for a Technologically Advanced Workforce was selected as one of the 10 Bellwether Finalists in the Workforce Development category for the National Bellwether Awards.

The Alabama Southern Industry Alliance for a Technologically Advanced Workforce is an alliance of advanced technology manufacturers in six rural counties who have committed scholarships and internships to recruit top students into a pipeline to the region's best jobs. These scholarships and internships are for one of four advanced technology programs depending upon industry needs: (1) Paper and Chemical Technology, (2) Instrumentation and Electronics, (3) Industrial Maintenance and Electrical Technology, and (4) Machine Technology Millwright.

This is the second time that Alabama Southern has been selected as the top 10 finalist for a Bellwether Award. In December 2004, Alabama Southern was selected in the top 10 for the Bellwether Award for Instructional Excellence. Alabama Southern won the National Bellwether Award after competing against other community colleges.

"After winning the National Bellwether Award for Alabama Southern's Teaching and Learning Initiative, I said it was a once-in-a-lifetime achievement," said **Dr. John A. Johnson**, president of Alabama Southern. "This is also a once in a lifetime achievement to be in the top ten for a Bellwether Award in Workforce Development. We feel very honored to again receive national recognition, last year for overall innovation for instructional excellence and this year for collaboration with industry in workforce development. These awards are the ultimate recognition of the excellence of our faculty. We are proud of what they do and grateful for this recognition from our peers."

The National Bellwether Award is perhaps the most prestigious award recognizing either instructional excellence or workforce development in American community colleges. The Bellwether Award for Workforce Development honors public and/or private strategic alliances and partnerships that have been formed which promote community and economic development. The Bellwether Awards annually recognize outstanding and innovative programs and practices that are successfully leading community colleges into the future.

Northeast Community College Goes Global

Northeast Alabama Community College is reaching out nationally and globally to let potential students know about the benefits of attending the college and as a result, hoping to attract residents to the area. NACC is pursuing this effort through a link on the college's web page describing the area's attractions. The link also includes a listing of apartments in the area.

"We hope this site helps define our area," stated **Dr. David Campbell**, NACC President. "It's such a beautiful area, breathtaking really, when you look at a sampling of our scenery all together. We believe that our students from the area will get an even deeper appreciation about where they live from looking at this website."

Campbell noted that what sparked an interest in creating such a web page was the realization by college officials that students from foreign countries were applying and attending Northeast. These students, college officials said, found out about the college from the Internet, and liked what they saw. As a result, the college decided to create a website that would describe the attractions of the NACC service area.

Dean **Marilyn King Reece** designed the "Area Attractions and Apartments" link and **Andrea Wheeler** collected photographs for the page. **J. P. Parsons** of the Greater Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and **Patty Tucker** of the DeKalb County Tourism Association assisted Ms. Wheeler.



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Focusing on Learning

Photography Exhibited at Reid State

Reid State Technical College is exhibiting photography by photo-journalist **Janet Durrans** titled, "Through The Burqa," a story in pictures of the struggles of Afghan women and girls. The month-long exhibit coincided with International Womens' Month in March.

Durrans, a photojournalist, initially went to Afghanistan on assignment in October 2001 to cover the war. After documenting the battle in the trenches, and after being under constant threat of gunfire and stoning, she began

to recognize the harsh and humiliating treatment that women were exposed to throughout the Taliban's regime. In response, she focused her efforts on giving these burqa-clad women a voice and telling their story to the world. "Through The Burqa" focuses on the common struggles of Afghan women and girls, living the same way as they have for centuries.

Reid State displayed Durrans' work at the Edith A. Gray Library and Technology Center.

Reading the River at CVCC

With its third Learning Community, Chattahoochee Valley Community College developed a series of events focusing on rivers from several perspectives — biological, literary, and artistic.

Called "Reading the River," the initiative provided many opportunities to learn more about the ecology of rivers. English faculty organized a "Book Day" and assigned the book *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson.

Other events focused on the beauty of rivers. The Visual Communications faculty and students displayed digital photographs of the Chattahoochee River. Students worked hard to feature the river that is shared by Alabama and Georgia at different times of the day.

The main event for spring was a visit from Ron Rash, the author of *Saints of the River* which is CVCC's selection for its Spring Book. "The book was chosen for its lyrical prose and its relationship to our learning community's theme," said **Anne Messner** a member of the Learning Communities committee.

Endowment Announced for Bishop State

Retired U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Gordon Kahn of Mobile recently announced a \$10,000 endowment to be used to provide scholarships for qualified nursing students at Bishop State Community College. Kahn and his brother Nathan, established the endowment in the name of their former nurse, the late Cora Moore Hackett.



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Focusing on Achievement

ACA Briefs—Awards, Achievements, and Recognition

Dr. Anthony L. Molina, president of H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College, has been nominated to receive the Mays-Johnson Award by the National Association For Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO). NAFEO is the professional association of the presidents and chancellors of the nation's 118 historically and predominately black colleges and universities.

Marilyn Nicholson, Learning Skills Specialist with the Student Support Services Program at Jefferson Davis Community College, recently earned her Ed.D. from the University of West Florida. The title of her dissertation was "The Struggle for Educational Attainment: A Case Study of the First African-American Female Neurosurgeon."

Nisheeth Agrawal, Drake State Technical College Computer Information Systems Instructor, has been certified by Cisco Academy as a Fundamentals of Wireless LAN instructor.

Drake State Technical College Office Systems Technology Chairperson, **Gwendolyn Pope**, recently received the Ed. S. degree from Tennessee State University in Nashville. Pope manages the accounting, computer information systems, and office administration programs at Drake.

Dr. Harry Moore, Calhoun Community College English Instructor and Humanities Division Chair, recently received the Cowan Award for Excellence in the Teaching of English from the Two-Year College English Association - Southeast. TYCA-SE, drawing its membership from community college English faculty in a ten-state Southeastern region, gives the Cowan Award each year to a member who has "demonstrated exceptional skill in instruction, developed creative approaches to curriculum and instruction, and exhibited a leadership role within the academic department."

Bevill State Community College personnel **Sherry Terry** and **Brian Gann** were selected to present at the 86th American Association of Community Colleges Annual Convention held in Long Beach, CA, in April.

The Alabama Federation Council for Exceptional Children recently presented its Jasper Harvey Award to Athens State University Professor, **Dr. J. Jeffrey Grill**, at the organization's annual conference.

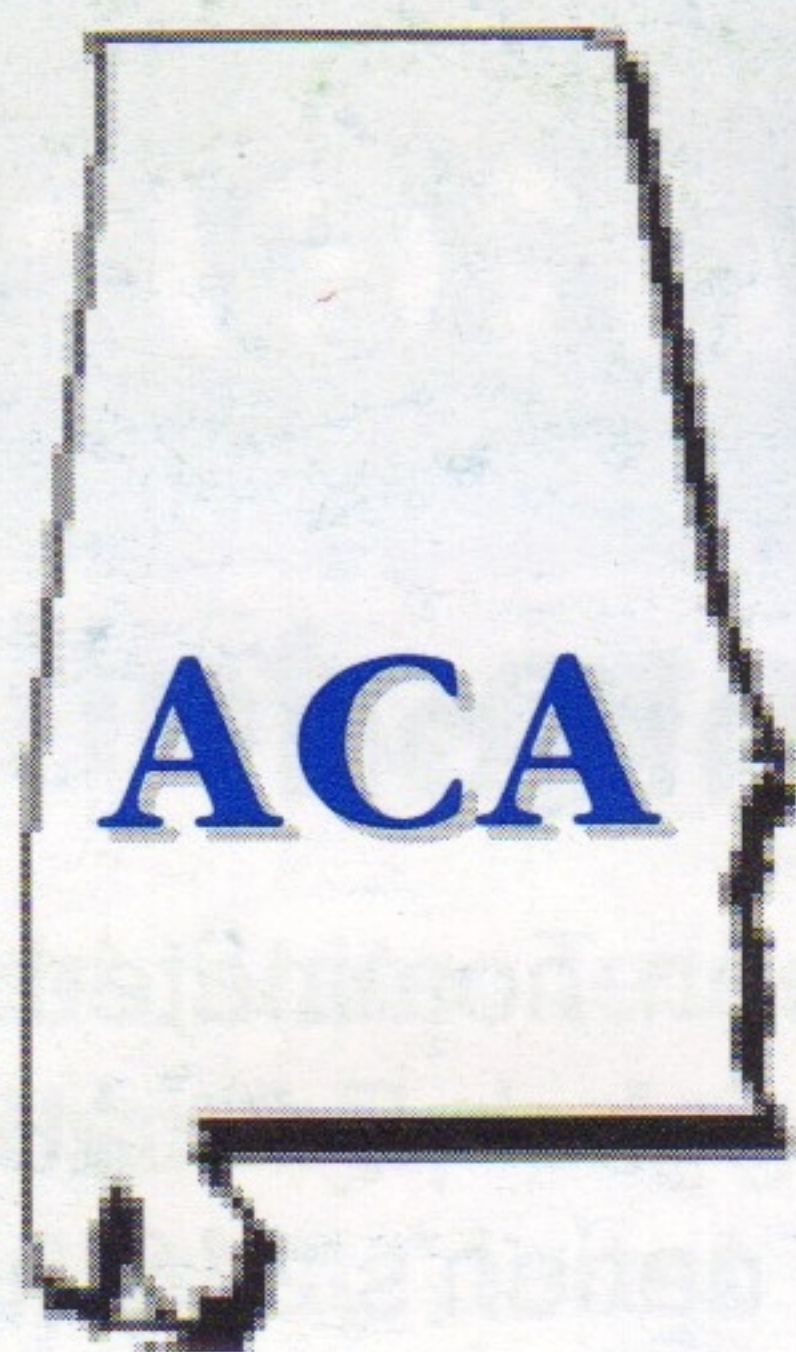
Dr. Steve Hubbard, English Instructor at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College, presented *Taking Stories to Heart: Robert Coles and Friends in the Literature Class* at the Northwest Regional NCTE (National Council of Teachers of English) conference in Portland, OR in March.

Diaon M. Cook, English Instructor and Student Activities Coordinator at LBW Community College, has been chosen President-Elect of the Alabama Association for Developmental Education for 2006.

Fran Davidson, Student Support Services Campus Coordinator at LBW Community College, has been selected by the Troy University Chi Sigma Iota honor society as "Outstanding Graduate Student" for 2006.

Dr. Rebecca Armstrong, an English Instructor at Enterprise-Ozark Community College, recently received the Paragon Award for Advisors from the Alabama Region of Phi Theta Kappa.

Lawson State Community College Barbering Instructor **Anthony Pete Stone** was honored with the Legendary Entrepreneur and Educator "Superstar Barber" Award at the 2006 State Cosmetology's annual "Student Show Off and Show Down." Fellow instructor **Pier Wilkerson** was also presented a medal for her dedication to the profession.



CALL FOR

PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

The 2006 Alabama College Association conference will be held November 19-21, 2006 at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel and the Birmingham Jefferson Civic Complex. This year's conference theme of "The Alabama College System: Focusing on the Future" provides a broad umbrella for presentations related to the following areas of interest:

- I. Teaching and Learning**
- II. Student Success**
- III. Staff Development**
- IV. Leadership & Personal Development**
- V. Workforce Development**

Proposals for one-hour presentations are invited for each of the five areas of interest. An online submission form has been created for your convenience. If you are interested in presenting, please submit your proposal at <http://www.wallace.edu/acaproposals/>. For additional information, contact Ms. Jackie Screws via email at aca@wallace.edu.

Proposals are requested by July 5, 2006.

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The Alabama College System: Focusing on The Future